



**United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office
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News Release

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Red Lake man sentenced for assaulting a law enforcement officer

A 40-year-old member of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians will serve the next 80 months in federal prison for assaulting a law enforcement officer on May 31, 2007. U.S. District Court Judge David S. Doty sentenced William Rufus Graves, Red Lake, on Dec. 6 stating the penalties are "sufficient" for the crime.

Graves was indicted on June 27, 2007 with one count of assault resulting in serious bodily harm. Court records indicate that on May 31 while being held in the Red Lake Detention Center, Graves assaulted a law enforcement officer. Specifically, he kicked a cell block door closed on the officer's hand, causing the officer's finger to be severed at the knuckle. He later pleaded guilty to the charge.

Along with the 80-month prison term, Graves will also be required to undergo a 500-hour drug treatment program and serve three years of supervised release.

This case was the result of an investigation of the Red Lake Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Tricia A. Tingle.